
Wisconsin Marriages and Divorces

2001

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Introduction

This report presents key information about marriages and divorces that occurred in Wisconsin in 2001. It also contains information from selected previous years, as well as information on the number and rate of marriages and divorces, both in Wisconsin and nationally. The sources of data for Wisconsin are marriage and divorce certificates on file with the Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

The collection of marriage and divorce data is mandated by Chapter 69 of the Wisconsin Statutes. Chapter 69 authorizes the Department of Health and Family Services to supervise and direct the collection of these data. This statute also specifies how local registrars are to collect and file certificates of marriage. Samples of the marriage and divorce certificates are included in the Technical Notes.

The Department of Health and Family Services produced this publication. Staff of the Vital Records Registration and Statistics Unit, Bureau of Health Information, collected and compiled the marriage and divorce records. Joyce Knapton drafted the summaries in this report and produced the computer programs to generate the tables. Patricia Nametz edited the report. The report was prepared under the supervision of Janet Heimbruch, State Registrar, Vital Records Section, and Lynnette Traas, Supervisor, Registration and Statistics Unit. Sandra Breitborde, Director, and Vonnice Buske, Deputy Director, Bureau of Health Information, provided overall direction.

The Bureau of Health Information would like to thank the County Clerks for issuing accurate marriage licenses and the local Register of Deeds offices for their accurate recording of all marriage records.

This report is also available on the Department of Health and Family Services Web site, at www.dhfs.state.wi.us/stats.

Comments, suggestions, and requests for additional marriage or divorce data may be addressed to:

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Key Findings

- A total of 34,790 marriages occurred in Wisconsin in 2001, representing a decrease from the 36,100 marriages that occurred in 2000. These counts reflect all marriages that occurred in Wisconsin (of both residents and non-residents of the state).
- Wisconsin's marriage rate in 2001 was 6.5 per 1,000 total population, similar to the 2000 rate of 6.7 and continuing the gradual decline that began after 1980 when the rate was 8.7.
- The marriage rate in Wisconsin has been consistently lower than the national rate for more than 80 years. In 2001, the United States marriage rate was 8.5.
- The median age for first marriages in 2001 was 24.7 for brides and 26.3 for grooms. In 1960, the median age at first marriage was 20.4 for brides and 22.9 for grooms.
- Since 1960, the average bride in a first marriage has been approximately two years younger than the groom.
- In 2001, the months with the highest number of marriages were June, August and September. September was the most popular month to marry.
- Milwaukee County had the highest number of marriages in 2001 (5,428), followed by Dane County (2,715), Waukesha County (2,257), and Brown County (1,650). These are Wisconsin's four most populous counties. Each of these counties had a decrease in the number of marriages from 2000 to 2001.
- A total of 17,457 divorces occurred in Wisconsin in 2001, for a divorce rate of 3.3 per 1,000 total population. This is slightly higher than the 2000 rate (3.2).
- The divorce rate in Wisconsin has been consistently lower than the national rate for more than 80 years. In 2001, the United States divorce rate was 4.0.
- In 2001, the total number of Wisconsin divorces was 50 percent of the total number of Wisconsin marriages. This is higher than the 2000 percentage (48 percent).
- The highest number of divorces occurred in Milwaukee County (2,669 divorces and 10 annulments), followed by Dane County (1,372 divorces and 4 annulments) and Waukesha County (1,119 divorces and 3 annulments), reflecting the large populations of these three counties.
- Fifty-five percent of all Wisconsin divorces in 2001 involved families with children under 18 years of age. Among divorces involving families with children, an average of 1.8 children were affected by each divorce.

Table 1. Marriages and Marriage Rates, Wisconsin and United States, Selected Years, 1920-2001

Year	Number of Wisconsin Marriages	Wisconsin Marriage Rate*	United States Marriage Rate*
1920	22,293	8.4	12.0
1925	16,385	5.8	10.3
1930	15,328	5.2	9.2
1935	21,075	6.9	10.4
1940	23,379	7.5	12.1
1945	25,269	8.5	12.2
1950	29,081	8.4	11.1
1955	25,543	7.0	9.3
1960	24,573	6.2	8.5
1965	28,410	6.7	9.3
1970	34,415	7.8	10.6
1975	35,888	7.9	10.0
1980	41,113	8.7	10.6
1985	40,014	8.4	10.1
1990	38,934	8.0	9.8
1995	36,354	7.1	8.9
2000	36,100	6.7	8.8
2001	34,790	6.5	8.5

Source: U.S. marriage rates are from the National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Reports*. Wisconsin numbers and rates are from the Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

* Rates shown are marriages per 1,000 total population.

Notes: The Wisconsin numbers and rates reflect marriages that occurred in Wisconsin. The U.S. marriage rates for 2000 and 2001 are provisional based on marriages that occurred in the 12 months ending in August of both years.

- A total of 34,790 marriages occurred in Wisconsin in 2001, representing a decrease from the 36,100 marriages that occurred in 2000.
- Wisconsin's marriage rate in 2001 was 6.5 per 1,000 total population, similar to the 2000 rate of 6.7 and continuing the gradual decline that began after 1980 when the rate was 8.7.
- The marriage rate in Wisconsin has been consistently lower than the national rate for more than 80 years.

Table 2. Median Age at First Marriage and All Remarriages, Wisconsin 1960-2001

	First Marriages		All Remarriages	
<u>Year</u>	<u>Bride</u>	<u>Groom</u>	<u>Bride</u>	<u>Groom</u>
1960	20.4	22.9	39.9	45.1
1965	20.6	22.5	40.4	45.2
1970	20.8	22.6	37.4	42.6
1975	20.8	22.7	32.4	37.1
1980	21.7	23.5	31.7	34.9
1985	22.9	24.7	33.7	36.9
1990	23.8	25.5	38.3	41.6
1991	23.9	25.6	38.6	41.7
1992	24.1	25.7	38.8	42.3
1993	24.2	25.8	39.0	42.0
1994	24.3	25.8	39.4	42.3
1995	24.5	26.0	39.9	42.6
1996	24.6	26.2	40.4	43.6
1997	24.6	26.3	40.7	43.4
1998	24.6	26.3	41.1	43.9
1999	24.6	26.3	41.6	44.5
2000	24.7	26.3	41.7	44.6
2001	24.7	26.3	42.3	45.2

Source: Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: The median age is one way of expressing the average age, and represents the midpoint of all persons in the group (half are older and half are younger than the median age). For example, in 1995 the median age for brides at first marriage was 24.5, meaning that half of all brides being married for the first time in 1995 were younger, and half were older, than 24.5. The numbers in this table reflect all marriages that occurred in Wisconsin in the stated years.

- The median age for first marriages in 2001 was 24.7 for brides and 26.3 for grooms. In 1960, the median age at first marriage was 20.4 for brides and 22.9 for grooms.
- Since 1960, the average bride in a first marriage has been approximately two years younger than the groom.

Table 3. Marriages and Remarriages by Age of Bride and Groom, Wisconsin 2001

Age in Years	Bride					Groom				
	Total Marriages	First	Second	Third	Fourth or More	Total Marriages	First	Second	Third	Fourth or More
	34,790	24,158	8,351	1,896	385	34,790	24,475	8,233	1,753	329
16	119	119				4	4			
17	131	131				21	21			
18	616	616				184	184			
19	920	917	3			410	410			
20	1,321	1,313	7	1		739	739			
21	1,700	1,679	21			1,142	1,137	5		
22	2,187	2,140	47			1,538	1,528	8	2	
23	2,511	2,448	63			1,990	1,956	33	1	
24	2,542	2,408	130	4		2,225	2,194	30	1	
25-29	8,740	7,512	1,145	81	2	9,577	8,831	731	15	
30-34	4,937	2,927	1,762	225	23	5,990	4,379	1,499	102	10
35-39	3,160	1,074	1,689	352	45	3,618	1,733	1,617	238	30
40-44	2,370	547	1,299	435	89	2,639	795	1,485	308	51
45-49	1,526	199	898	339	90	1,837	345	1,056	367	69
50-54	1,002	84	605	246	67	1,228	133	716	308	71
55-59	442	30	279	98	35	661	38	395	177	51
60-64	251	3	178	53	17	436	21	269	116	30
65-69	148	5	102	32	9	224	12	156	51	5
70-74	81	2	60	15	4	156	6	116	27	7
75+	86	4	63	15	4	171	9	117	40	5

Source: Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: Totals shown represent marriages that occurred in Wisconsin in 2001.

- For first-time brides and grooms, the highest number of marriages occurred between the ages of 25 and 29.
- In 2001, first-time grooms in Wisconsin outnumbered first-time brides by more than 300.

Marriages

Table 4. Monthly Marriage Totals by County, Wisconsin 2001

<u>County</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
State Total	34,790	1,132	1,506	1,823	2,283	3,310	4,899	3,579	4,285	4,949	3,624	1,741	1,659
Adams	131	9	6	7	7	7	23	12	12	17	13	14	4
Ashland	130	7	4	7	12	7	17	16	16	23	13	4	4
Barron	353	8	7	25	27	23	40	44	58	53	37	15	16
Bayfield	140	3	4	8	5	10	20	16	16	30	12	3	13
Brown	1,650	46	80	87	133	168	234	158	194	210	173	94	73
Buffalo	70	1	4	2	4	9	11	8	9	10	4	3	5
Burnett	134	6	4	6	11	5	26	16	23	19	6	5	7
Calumet	208	8	10	12	14	18	26	21	24	34	16	13	12
Chippewa	416	8	15	20	24	38	58	37	53	63	51	26	23
Clark	213	4	8	14	18	10	31	16	28	37	25	10	12
Columbia	376	21	15	16	28	35	45	36	44	55	46	14	21
Crawford	131	2	1	5	12	17	26	15	16	22	11	1	3
Dane	2,715	94	123	147	196	268	373	282	321	396	252	133	130
Dodge	523	14	26	20	41	39	78	57	68	76	47	22	35
Door	455	12	17	17	25	40	74	43	56	75	50	23	23
Douglas	249	8	10	16	13	23	35	31	43	32	22	3	13
Dunn	201	8	8	10	6	19	20	19	33	34	28	8	8
Eau Claire	593	17	35	34	35	52	84	50	83	77	71	25	30
Florence	29		2	2			6	5	4	5	3	1	1
Fond du Lac	624	16	21	29	41	68	94	48	96	91	69	24	27
Forest	70	2	3	2	4	6	10	11	6	10	7	4	5
Grant	334	4	9	14	20	24	50	35	54	58	38	16	12
Green	196	8	12	9	12	15	31	17	20	27	27	8	10
Green Lake	146	8	4	9	7	11	25	16	23	19	15	4	5
Iowa	180	6	5	7	9	20	28	16	24	32	19	9	5
Iron	49	4	5	4	1	2	9	3	4	5	6	1	5
Jackson	136	6	8	8	4	8	30	13	17	20	13	3	6
Jefferson	524	16	24	33	36	50	59	50	55	83	64	26	28
Juneau	179	5	8	6	13	16	27	16	22	21	20	12	13
Kenosha	873	30	42	51	65	88	113	80	90	130	90	57	37
Kewaunee	129	4	4	3	3	15	22	15	9	26	16	4	8
La Crosse	724	28	32	35	34	80	95	85	95	105	76	33	26
Lafayette	94	2	4	3	6	5	13	9	10	18	10	9	5
Langlade	151	4	7	11	10	13	21	18	19	22	8	7	11
Lincoln	202	7	9	6	13	21	31	19	34	25	20	10	7
Manitowoc	558	10	18	25	32	57	82	67	81	83	56	23	24
Marathon	834	33	30	41	50	81	119	90	122	116	76	33	43
Marinette	260	10	10	9	19	24	31	25	44	31	28	15	14
Marquette	94	3	8	4	7	3	12	8	11	17	13	5	3
Menominee	45	2	1	2	1	4	9	6	5	6	6	1	2
Milwaukee	5,428	211	287	328	402	516	712	530	588	684	551	334	285
Monroe	335	6	17	21	19	37	49	25	41	51	36	16	17

Marriages

Table 4. Monthly Marriage Totals by County, Wisconsin 2001

<u>County</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
Oconto	194	5	5	10	9	15	33	17	37	24	23	10	6
Oneida	280	9	15	13	6	25	50	33	41	52	19	9	8
Outagamie	1,196	42	50	73	89	122	161	117	141	164	118	62	57
Ozaukee	413	8	13	16	23	42	68	53	58	53	54	13	12
Pepin	53	1		2	2	7	10	6	7	11	4	1	2
Pierce	219	4	9	10	12	23	32	24	38	29	24	6	8
Polk	253	4	14	11	19	23	35	30	36	33	29	11	8
Portage	405	11	22	18	24	45	57	46	51	57	40	18	16
Price	100	3	6	5	4	5	15	13	11	17	12	2	7
Racine	1,066	32	47	54	74	103	146	120	120	152	106	54	58
Richland	135	8	3	8	9	9	21	16	16	18	15	9	3
Rock	883	30	33	55	54	85	132	101	100	120	87	44	42
Rusk	97	3	4	7	4	8	14	17	16	13	7		4
St. Croix	436	12	16	16	22	34	80	45	47	68	47	25	24
Sauk	467	17	15	24	43	43	65	37	50	73	56	18	26
Sawyer	119	8	6	6	7	13	19	13	11	17	11	4	4
Shawano	252	6	10	16	13	22	41	30	40	36	18	10	10
Sheboygan	774	33	30	52	45	82	97	81	83	105	78	44	44
Taylor	145	2	7	7	12	9	26	20	14	23	14	6	5
Trempealeau	176	2	6	10	11	17	27	19	20	31	25	5	3
Vernon	185	7	8	7	9	22	27	12	20	28	20	12	13
Vilas	179	3	2	9	4	11	27	25	36	34	13	6	9
Walworth	772	26	34	37	47	79	98	79	95	109	85	37	46
Washburn	126	5	9	5	8	11	17	11	15	14	12	9	10
Washington	680	20	29	33	41	74	82	94	79	108	63	31	26
Waukesha	2,257	61	79	104	155	234	327	215	260	327	287	120	88
Waupaca	451	13	19	26	21	40	66	46	65	67	47	23	18
Waushara	125	6	6	1	7	14	17	15	12	20	12	5	10
Winnebago	942	33	40	45	57	88	142	95	118	137	106	48	33
Wood	528	17	22	28	33	53	68	65	77	61	48	28	28

Source: Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: These numbers represent marriages that occurred in Wisconsin in 2001.

- In 2001, the months with the highest number of marriages were June, August and September. September was the most popular month to marry.
- Milwaukee County had the highest number of marriages in 2001 (5,428), followed by Dane County (2,715), Waukesha County (2,257), and Brown County (1,650). These are Wisconsin's four most populous counties. Each of these counties had a decrease in the number of marriages from 2000 to 2001.
- The lowest number of marriages occurred in the counties of Florence (29) and Menominee (45).

Table 5. Divorces and Divorce Rates, Wisconsin and United States, Selected Years, 1920-2001

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Wisconsin Divorces</u>	<u>Wisconsin Divorce Rate*</u>	<u>United States Divorce Rate*</u>
1920	2,425	0.9	1.6
1925	2,467	0.9	1.5
1930	2,553	0.9	1.6
1935	3,543	1.2	1.7
1940	3,599	1.1	2.0
1945	6,393	2.2	3.5
1950	4,845	1.4	2.6
1955	4,720	1.3	2.3
1960	3,672	0.9	2.2
1965	5,232	1.2	2.5
1970	8,930	2.0	3.5
1975	13,187	2.9	4.8
1980	17,589	3.7	5.2
1985	16,596	3.5	5.0
1990	17,727	3.6	4.7
1995	17,313	3.4	4.4
2000	17,388	3.2	4.2
2001	17,457	3.3	4.0

Source: U.S. divorce rates are from the National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Reports*. Wisconsin numbers and rates are from the Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

* Rates shown are divorces and annulments per 1,000 total population.

Notes: The Wisconsin numbers and rates represent divorces and annulments occurring in Wisconsin. The U.S. divorce rates for 2000 and 2001 are provisional based on divorces that occurred in the 12 months ending in August of both years.

- A total of 17,457 divorces occurred in Wisconsin in 2001, for a divorce rate of 3.3 per 1,000 population. This is slightly higher than the 2000 rate (3.2).
- Wisconsin's divorce rate has been lower than the national rate for more than 80 years.
- In 2001, the total number of Wisconsin divorces was 50 percent of the total number of Wisconsin marriages. This was higher than the 2000 percentage (48 percent).

Divorces

Table 6. Divorces and Annulments by County, Wisconsin 2001

<u>County</u>	<u>Divorces</u>	<u>Annulments</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Divorces</u>	<u>Annulments</u>
Total	17,414	43			
Adams	78		Marathon	407	2
Ashland	59		Marinette	158	
Barron	177	1	Marquette	66	
Bayfield	55		Menominee	3	
Brown	738		Milwaukee	2,669	10
Buffalo	34		Monroe	122	
Burnett	55	1	Oconto	146	
Calumet	113		Oneida	151	1
Chippewa	212		Outagamie	537	
Clark	116		Ozaukee	221	1
Columbia	202		Pepin	18	
Crawford	53	1	Pierce	122	
Dane	1,372	4	Polk	155	
Dodge	292		Portage	199	
Door	78		Price	44	
Douglas	169		Racine	555	2
Dunn	95		Richland	66	
Eau Claire	330		Rock	634	1
Florence	18		Rusk	45	
Fond du Lac	274	1	St. Croix	224	1
Forest	43		Sauk	221	
Grant	135	1	Sawyer	57	
Green	121		Shawano	123	
Green Lake	62	1	Sheboygan	381	1
Iowa	65	1	Taylor	49	
Iron	21	1	Trempealeau	90	
Jackson	69		Vernon	86	
Jefferson	300		Vilas	85	
Juneau	93		Walworth	293	1
Kenosha	575	2	Washburn	49	
Kewaunee	59		Washington	373	3
La Crosse	351		Waukesha	1,119	3
Lafayette	55		Waupaca	200	
Langlade	67		Waushara	54	1
Lincoln	93		Winnebago	552	1
Manitowoc	257		Wood	254	1

Source: Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: These numbers represent divorces and annulments that occurred in Wisconsin in 2001.

- The highest number of divorces occurred in Milwaukee County (2,669 divorces and 10 annulments), followed by Dane County (1,372 divorces and 4 annulments) and Waukesha County (1,119 divorces and 3 annulments), reflecting the large populations of these three counties.
- The lowest number of divorces occurred in the counties of Menominee (3 divorces) and Pepin and Florence (18 divorces each).

Divorces

Table 7. Divorces Affecting Children Under 18 Years of Age by County, Wisconsin 2001

<u>County</u>	<u>Divorces Granted</u>	<u>Those With Children < 18</u>	<u>No. of Children <18 Affected</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Divorces Granted</u>	<u>Those With Children < 18</u>	<u>No. of Children <18 Affected</u>
State Total	17,457	9,624	17,671				
Adams	78	51	117	Marathon	409	230	408
Ashland	59	37	69	Marinette	158	86	154
Barron	178	92	153	Marquette	66	31	48
Bayfield	55	33	62	Menominee	3	1	2
Brown	738	389	717	Milwaukee	2,679	1,320	2,380
Buffalo	34	25	42	Monroe	122	69	131
Burnett	56	32	61	Oconto	146	73	142
Calumet	113	70	141	Oneida	152	87	148
Chippewa	212	119	213	Outagamie	537	325	610
Clark	116	70	146	Ozaukee	222	114	212
Columbia	202	110	204	Pepin	18	9	21
Crawford	54	35	68	Pierce	122	75	136
Dane	1,376	719	1,289	Polk	155	92	190
Dodge	292	163	296	Portage	199	129	230
Door	78	46	94	Price	44	25	53
Douglas	169	90	171	Racine	557	314	565
Dunn	95	50	102	Richland	66	48	97
Eau Claire	330	176	331	Rock	635	379	707
Florence	18	7	13	Rusk	45	27	43
Fond du Lac	275	145	249	St. Croix	225	132	224
Forest	43	23	46	Sauk	221	129	228
Grant	136	86	176	Sawyer	57	32	76
Green	121	73	136	Shawano	123	65	127
Green Lake	63	33	61	Sheboygan	382	223	392
Iowa	66	38	73	Taylor	49	33	52
Iron	22	13	22	Trempealeau	90	58	105
Jackson	69	43	74	Vernon	86	54	102
Jefferson	300	182	344	Vilas	85	47	76
Juneau	93	45	80	Walworth	294	166	323
Kenosha	577	309	551	Washburn	49	21	43
Kewaunee	59	41	88	Washington	376	215	407
La Crosse	351	190	340	Waukesha	1,122	589	1,030
Lafayette	55	40	82	Waupaca	200	112	209
Langlade	67	38	68	Waushara	55	25	39
Lincoln	93	47	87	Winnebago	553	312	609
Manitowoc	257	158	289	Wood	255	159	297

Source: Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: These numbers represent divorces and annulments that occurred in Wisconsin in 2001.

- Fifty-five percent of all Wisconsin divorces in 2001 involved couples with children under 18 years of age. Among divorces involving children, an average of 1.8 children were affected by each divorce.

Technical Notes

Marriage Reporting Requirements

As specified in Chapter 69, Wisconsin Statutes, the following is a brief outline of the sequence of events which take place when a marriage occurs in Wisconsin:

- The filing party (officiant) must register the certificate of marriage with the local Register of Deeds (where the marriage took place) within 3 days after the event.
- The local Register of Deeds must transmit the marriage certificate to the State Registrar within 10 working days after its receipt.

A sample marriage certificate form can be found on page 16.

Divorce Reporting Requirements

As specified in Chapter 69, Wisconsin Statutes, the following is a brief outline of the sequence of events which take place when a divorce occurs in Wisconsin:

- At the end of every biweekly period the filing party (clerk of any court) must send to the State Registrar a report of every divorce or annulment of marriage granted during that period. (This is the only legal document pertaining to vital records that is not filed by the local Register of Deeds.)

A sample divorce certificate form can be found on page 17.

Do not complete this form before
reading the instructions for
Marriage License Application and
Original Certificate of Marriage

STATE OF WISCONSIN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

STATE FILE DATE

ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

STATE FILE NUMBER

Type or Print
Use Permanent
Black Ink
No Whiteout
or Erasures.

Reserved for
Vital Statistics

1. GROOM-NAME First Middle Last		2. DATE OF BIRTH Month Day Year	
3a. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: STATE		3b. COUNTY	
5. FATHER-NAME First Middle Last		6. MOTHER-NAME First Middle Birth Surname	
7a. BRIDE-NAME First Middle Last		7b. BRIDE-BIRTH SURNAME First Middle Birth Surname	
9a. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: STATE		9b. COUNTY	
11. FATHER-NAME First Middle Last		12. MOTHER-NAME First Middle Birth Surname	
13. GROOM'S SIGNATURE (SIGN BEFORE CEREMONY)		14. BRIDE'S SIGNATURE (SIGN BEFORE CEREMONY)	
WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IS CORRECT TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF AND THAT WE ARE FREE TO MARRY UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS STATE.			
15. LICENSE NO.			
16. ISSUED BY COUNTY CLERK			
17. DATE ISSUED Month Day Year			
18. ISSUING COUNTY			
19. DATE OF MARRIAGE: Month Day Year		20a. WHERE MARRIED-COUNTY	
21. OFFICIANT SIGNATURE: I certify that the above named persons were married before me on the above mentioned date (Black Ink Only)		22. ADULT WITNESS TO CEREMONY (Black Ink Only)	
23. OFFICIANT NAME (Print or Type)		24. ADULT WITNESS TO CEREMONY (Black Ink Only)	
25a. OFFICIANT TITLE		25b. OFFICIANT MAILING ADDRESS Street City State ZIP	
26. REGISTRAR SIGNATURE (Black Ink Only)		27. DATE RECEIVED BY LOCAL REGISTRAR Month Day Year	

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS	NUMBER OF THIS MARRIAGE (1, 2, etc.)	IF PREVIOUSLY MARRIED, LAST MARRIAGE ENDED BY:	DATE LAST MARRIAGE ENDED Specify Below (Mo., Day, Yr.)	RACE (White, Black, American Indian, etc.) Specify Below	EDUCATION (Specify only highest grade completed)
					32a. 32b.
33a.	28a.	29a. 1. Death 2. Div. 3. Annul.	30a.	31a.	32a.
33b.	28b.	*29b. 1. Death 2. Div. 3. Annul.	30b.	31b.	32b.

THIS ORIGINAL DOCUMENT MUST BE FORWARDED TO THE REGISTER OF DEEDS WITHIN 3 DAYS OF MARRIAGE.

NOTE: THIS ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE, LEGIBLY AND COMPLETELY FILLED OUT, MUST BE RETURNED TO THE REGISTER OF DEEDS OF THE COUNTY OF MARRIAGE, WITHIN THREE DAYS FROM THE DATE OF MARRIAGE. MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE IS TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200), OR THREE MONTHS IMPRISONMENT, OR BOTH. [Wis. Statute Sec. 765.30(4)(a)]

TYPE OR
PRINT IN
PERMANENT
BLACK INK

DOH-5280 (Rev. 4/98)
Chap. 88, Wis. Stat.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

STATE FILE DATE

ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE OR ANNULMENT

STATE FILE NUMBER

1. HUSBAND - NAME		First	Full Middle	Last
2a. RESIDENCE - STATE		2b. RESIDENCE - COUNTY		
3. DATE OF BIRTH (Mo., Day, Yr.)				
4. WIFE - NAME		First	Full Middle	Last
5. BIRTH SURNAME				
6a. RESIDENCE - STATE		6b. RESIDENCE - COUNTY		
7. DATE OF BIRTH (Mo., Day, Yr.)				
8a. PLACE OF THIS MARRIAGE - STATE (If not in USA, Name Country)		8b. DATE OF THIS MARRIAGE (Month, Day, Year)		
9. DATE COUPLE FIRST RESIDED IN SAME HOUSEHOLD (Month, Day, Year)		10a. NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN THIS HOUSEHOLD AS OF DATE IN 9		
10b. NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 18 WHOSE PHYSICAL CUSTODY WAS AWARDED TO: Husband <input type="checkbox"/> Joint (husband/wife) <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input type="checkbox"/>		11a. ATTORNEY OR PROTHONOTARY - NAME (Type or Print)		
11b. ADDRESS NUMBER AND STREET		CITY		STATE ZIP
12. DATE OF DECREE (Mo., Day, Yr.)		13. TYPE OF DECREE <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce <input type="checkbox"/> Annulment		15. COURT CASE NUMBER
16. SIGNATURE OF CERTIFYING CLERK OF COURT		17. DATE SIGNED (Mo., Day, Yr.)		
18. WIFE'S NEW NAME (If applicable)		19. HUSBAND'S NEW NAME (If applicable)		
20. HUSBAND'S NEW NAME (If applicable)				
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